

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6323
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2000
PENDING APPLICATION FOR OUTLETS IN KASHMIR
AVTAR SINGH BHADANA

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

to Unstarred Question No. 2701 dated March 13, 2000 and state:

- (a): whether the Dealer Section Board has considered the pending applications for retail outlets in the Kashmir valley;
- (b): if so, the details thereof;
- (c): whether some of these outlets have already been or are being handed over on three years lease basis to private parties termed as `Handling contractors` under the pretext of `Coco-pumps`.
- (d) if so, the reasons therefore alongwith the justifications and the criteria adopted for selection therefore;
- (e) whether the Government propose to cancel these leases in the light of the anomalies made in awarding of such leases;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) if not, the reaction of the government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) to (g): The Dealer Selection Board could not consider applications pending for selection of retail outlet dealerships in Kashmir Valley on account of stay on selection process due to announcement of General Elections and enforcement of Modal Code of Conduct in July, 1999 and subsequently its dissolution alongwith other Dealer Selection Boards.

In order to avoid idling of investments made in development of the retail outlet dealerships, guidelines have been laid down regarding running of the retail outlets for which sites have been taken over the facilities installed on Company Owned Company Operated (COCO) basis. As per these guidelines, the Sales Officer is incharge of such outlet. The Labour contractor is appointed for a period of one year in the manner provided under these guidelines, which can be renewed for a further period of one year.

Accordingly, Oil Companies have developed three retail outlet dealerships as Company Owned Company Operated as per the above Scheme in Kashmir Valley.